

Domestic Product at factor cost in 2005-06 as compared to 7.5% in 2004-05. The Government is placing emphasis on upgradation of skills and on vocational training to improve the employability and levels of productivity of the workers. In order to improve labour market conditions, review/updation of labour laws is undertaken continuously to bring them in tune with the emerging needs of the economy.

Legislative Assembly for Andaman and Nicobar Islands

†*216. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of Andaman and Nicobar Islands have demanded for creation of Legislative Assembly, on the lines of Pondicherry;

(b) whether it is fact that many Parliamentary Committees have also recommended constitution of Legislative Assembly in Andaman and Nicobar;

(c) if so, whether Government have taken any decision for constitution of Legislative Assembly in Andaman and Nicobar; and

(d) if so, by when the Legislative Assembly would be constituted there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs, in its 121st Report on Administration of Union Territories, has recommended setting up of a Legislative Assembly in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Time frame can not be given.

Employment opportunity in rural areas

*217. SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 861 given in the Rajya Sabha on 29th November, 2006 and state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(a) whether the plan to generate five lakh jobs for rural BPL families during the Eleventh Five Year Plan Period envisages a special demand-based skill development programme from members of the BPL families in rural areas; and

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the role/responsibility contemplated for the textile industry in deciding the training programme and sharing costs?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI SHANKERSINH VAGHELA): (a) No Plan envisaging the creation of five lakh jobs for BPL families is being implemented by the Ministry of Textiles.

(b) Does not arise.

Beneficiaries under SGSY in Orissa

†*218. **SHRI SURENDRA LATH:** Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of people benefited by Swarnjayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) in various parts of the country, especially in Orissa;

(b) whether Government would release more funds under this Scheme in view of unemployment and starvation in Orissa; and

(c) if so, how many more people are likely to be provided employment under the said Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) 73.04 lakh swarozgaries have been assisted in the country under the Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY) since inception i.e. 01.04.1999 till October 2006. 4.78 lakh swarozgaries have been assisted in Orissa by SGSY during the same period. In addition, two Special Projects for marketing of rural products and dairy development under SGSY have also been sanctioned for Orissa.

(b) Under Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), funds are allocated to the States/Union Territories on the basis of incidence of poverty ratio fixed by the Planning Commission. Additional funds are being released on the request of the State Government, subject to availability of funds and their performance.

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